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**Cc:** CN=Bill Dunbar/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Cara Steiner-Riley/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Judy Smith/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Marianne Holsman/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Mark Macintyre/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Phil North/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Richard Parkin/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Sheila Eckman/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Tami Fordham/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Jeff Frithsen/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; N=Cara Steiner-Riley/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Judy Smith/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Marianne Holsman/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Mark Macintyre/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Phil North/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Richard Parkin/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Sheila Eckman/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Tami Fordham/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Jeff Frithsen/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; N=Judy Smith/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Marianne Holsman/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Mark Macintyre/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Phil North/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Richard Parkin/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Sheila Eckman/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Tami Fordham/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Jeff Frithsen/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; N=Marianne Holsman/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Mark Macintyre/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Phil North/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Richard Parkin/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Sheila Eckman/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Tami Fordham/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Jeff Frithsen/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; N=Mark Macintyre/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Phil North/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Richard Parkin/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Sheila Eckman/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Tami Fordham/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Jeff Frithsen/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; N=Phil North/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Richard Parkin/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Sheila Eckman/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Tami Fordham/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Jeff Frithsen/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; N=Richard Parkin/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Sheila Eckman/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Tami Fordham/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Jeff Frithsen/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; N=Sheila Eckman/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Tami Fordham/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Jeff Frithsen/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; N=Tami Fordham/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Jeff Frithsen/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; N=Jeff Frithsen/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]  
**Bcc:** []  
**From:** CN=Palmer Hough/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US  
**Sent:** Wed 10/5/2011 2:41:31 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Fairbanks Daily News-Miner: Mining comes of age  
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner - Mining comes of age The industry offers much to state's future  
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner - Mining comes of age The industry offers much to state's future

I did not see any reference to Pebble in this piece by Gov Parnell. That seems an interesting omission.

-P

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Date: 10/04/2011 06:09 PM  
Subject: Fairbanks Daily News-Miner: Mining comes of age

[http://newsminer.com/view/full\\_story/15872793/article-Mining-comes-of-age--The-industry-offers-much-to-state%E2%80%99s-future--?instance=home\\_opinion\\_community\\_perspectives](http://newsminer.com/view/full_story/15872793/article-Mining-comes-of-age--The-industry-offers-much-to-state%E2%80%99s-future--?instance=home_opinion_community_perspectives)

Mining comes of age: The industry offers much to state's future

By Gov. Sean Parnell  
Oct. 2, 2011

One of Alaska's strongest resource sectors is among our most unheralded and untapped.

I write of mining, an industry supported by a 3,500-person workforce comprised of residents from 120 Alaska communities.

They are hired by companies that spent an estimated \$225 million exploring Alaska last year, a 25 percent increase from 2009.

This workforce helped produce \$3 billion in gross mineral revenue from a variety of mines, plus rock, sand and gravel operations. That's also nearly a 25-percent boost.

Mining is not limited to one part of our state.

Rather, the industry, with a history in Alaska that dates to the 19th century, has tremendous geographic reach, spanning the state from the Arctic to southern Southeast.

In the state's Northwest region, Red Dog Mine sits as one of the world's largest zinc mines and accounts for more than 50 percent of Alaska's mineral industry value. Last year, it posted a mill throughput record: nearly 600,000 tons of zinc, 121,000 tons of lead and 6.7 million ounces of silver.

Near Healy, the Usibelli Coal Mine produced a record 2 million tons of coal last year for in-state customers, as well as those in Asia, making coal one of our most successful export products in 2010.

Near Juneau, Greens Creek Mine is the world's fifth-largest silver mine and represents one of Alaska's great resource development success stories. This mine began in 1989 with a projected 10 years of reserves. Twenty-two years later, the mine remains strong, with 10 years of reserves.

We boast some world-class deposits.

In the Interior, International Tower Hill continues to increase its resource estimate. In August, the

company boosted its projection from 13.3 million ounces of gold at Money Knob near Livengood to just more than 20 million ounces.

And earlier this month, Donlin Gold LLC announced its preliminary capital costs estimate of \$6 billion for its project near Crooked Creek, off the lower Kuskokwim River. Proven mineral reserves are 42.3 million ounces of gold. There may be an additional \$1 billion invested for a natural gas pipeline.

Mining not only invests in our state's economic lifeline, it also contributes directly to our children's future.

In recent weeks, two companies — Kinross Fort Knox and Sumitomo Pogo joint venture — announced separate

\$1 million endowments that will enhance mining engineering studies and research at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. This comes at a time when federal funding for such work is but a memory.

My commitment to mining remains as steadfast as the January day I stood before the Legislature and outlined my vision for Alaska in my State of the State address:

- Finish a road to the Ambler Mining District, which is one of our roads to resources
- Develop rare earth elements. The prospects for these rare minerals — used in nearly every piece of electronic equipment that comes to mind — were highlighted in the Alaska Strategic and Critical Minerals Summit in Fairbanks last week.

Our state's mineral legacy dates back to the 1860s, when William H. Seward was trying to convince a skeptical Congress that Alaska would be a worthy addition to the United States. Not long after Alaska became a territory, prospectors plied the Stikine River in Southeast, searching for a successful strike.

That year, they produced the first recorded mineral discovery: copper on Prince of Wales Island, west of Ketchikan.

Fittingly, another exploration project is under way on Prince of Wales. It's the prospective Niblack mine operated by Heatherdale LLC.

The company recently increased its investment to \$25 million these past two years, with the belief this prospect could produce copper, gold, silver and zinc, and employ 200 people.

For now, 35 people are based at the camp, a project supported by 80 Alaska-based vendors, from contractors supplying drillers to pilots who shuttle workers to the job site.

Nearby on Prince of Wales Island, Bokan Mountain holds promise for several rare earth elements, first identified in the 1950s and now reaching commercial viability.

All this demonstrates what Alaskans have known all along: Seward was right. Alaska is rich in resources and is a great investment.

Although it has been generations since Seward made that initial investment, mining is coming of age, growing jobs and driving an economic powerhouse that will endure for generations to come.

The best years for our state are ahead of us, and mining will play an important role.

Read more: Fairbanks Daily News-Miner - Mining comes of age The industry offers much to state's future

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